

Approved For Release 2003/08/07 : CIA-RDP82-00457R0014001800100

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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone) 6  
SUBJECT Agriculture in Mecklenburg

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DATE DISTR. 26 March 1948

NO. OF PAGES

25X1 PLACE  
ACQUIRED

DATE OF

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

25X1

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1. At the end of February 1948, representatives of SMA Mecklenburg, the Mecklenburg Ministry of Agriculture, and the Mecklenburg political parties met to discuss the agricultural situation in Mecklenburg. The following points were brought out in the conference:
2. The total agricultural yield in Mecklenburg in 1947 was only about half its peace-time total. Only 1.2 zentners of seed per hectare were available, although the requirement is two zentners per hectare. The lack of seeds is attributed, among other reasons, to the fact that 125,000 tons of wheat are considered "freie Spitzen" (excess amounts not subject to rationing) of agricultural enterprises which had fulfilled their delivery quotas. An attempt was to be made to obtain additional seed from Thuringia and Saxony, and Mecklenburg was to aid Thuringia in delivering the seed.
3. The Ministry of Agriculture applied for 3550 tons of diesel oil fuel for agricultural equipment. Mecklenburg SMA not only granted the request but increased the allowance to 5400 tons.
4. potassium produced in Anhalt is to be used for manufacture of fertilizer for agricultural purposes in Mecklenburg and elsewhere.
5. It is feared that, because 46,000 peasants have neither animals nor machines for agriculture, planting or seeding may be reduced twenty-five percent. In order to overcome the animal shortage, machine pools (Maschinenhöfe or MTS -- machine-tractor stations) are to be established quickly. Approximately three machine pools, each covering an area of about fifteen kilometers radius, are to operate in a county.

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**CLASSIFICATION**

1. The first step in the process is to identify the problem or issue that needs to be addressed. This involves gathering information and understanding the context of the problem.

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1 Auth: DDA Memo, 4 A  
DDA ENC 7742

Date: 11/2/78

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00457R00140019020080  
Next Review Date 02/08/20